

Message Text

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46

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 RSC-01 SCEN-02 PRS-01 PA-04

USIA-15 NSF-04 DRC-01 /116 W
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TO AEC HQS WASHDC

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH GASEOUS DIFFUSION TECHNOLOGY

USAEC FOR D. HOYLE, DIP

REF: CABLE HOYLE TO RUBIN, NOV 5

1. ARTICLE IN NOV 6 ISSUES OF LEMONDE BY SCIENCE EDITOR VICHNEY GIVES CURRENT SUMMARY OF ENRICHMENT SCENE IN FRANCE. TOTAL COST OF 9.3 MILLION SWU ENRICHMENT PLANT IS GIVEN AS SEVEN BILLION FRANCS (APPROX. 1.6 BILLION DOLLARS) EXCLUSIVE OF APPROX. 2,500 MWE POWER SUPPLY AT AN ADDITIONAL COST OF THREE BILLION FRANCS (APPROX. 0.7 BILLION DOLLARS).

2. PCCE PER SWU TO BE SUPPLIED BY EURODIF IS SAID TO BE UNKNOWN. (NOTE: PRICE QUOTE OF 200 FRANCS PER SWU MADE BY FRENCH AT SEPTEMBER MEETING IN SWITZERLAND WAS FOR ENRICHMENT DONE BY CEA AND NOT REPEAT NOT EURODIF).

3. RESPONSIBLE EVALUATION OF JUDGMENT OF FRENCH PROCESS WITH RESPECT TO U.S. PROCESS ON COST AND EFFICIENCY BASIS UNOBTAINABLE IN ANY QUANTITATIVE FASHION. IN ANY CASE, IT WILL
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NOT BE THE DECIDING FACTOR AS FRENCH SEEM LIKELY TO PROCEED AND

PROJECT BEING STRONGLY JUDGED ON POLITICAL AS WELL AS
ECONOMIC GROUNDS. GREENWALD

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